

Crowding Them In at Loew's, Toronto—Joan Crawford in M-G-M's "I Live My Life"

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

Vol. 27, No. 30

TORONTO 2, CANADA

Nov. 16th, 1935

Turn over a
new box-office leaf
because Charles Laughton, Clark
Gable and Franchot Tone are
thrilling the world in "Mutiny
on the Bounty!"



Also please watch that exotic South Seas maiden who captivates Clark Gable. She's one of the most exciting screen heroines he's ever held in his arms! In addition, the Cast features Herbert Mundin, Eddie Quillan, Dudley Digges, Donald Crisp and thousands of others, including lovely girls from Tahiti. Frank Lloyd directed this \$2,000,000 Irving Thalberg production. Al Lewin, Associate Producer. Need we add, it's METRO - GOLDWYN - MAYER!

PUBLISHED BY
CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED
259 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2

ANOTHER M-G-M SOCKO FOR YOUR BOX-O!

BRAVO! GROUCHO! CHICO! HARPO

"NIGHT AT OPERA" FROM METRO

IS POSITIVELY TERRIFICO!

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HEIGH HO! FOR LEO!

*P. S. Since the above was written these two engagements bore out all the sensational promise of their opening days. St. Louis in its 2nd week! Reviews are raves! Get ready to give this picture the heaviest campaign of your career. It's a positive clean-up!

U.S. Government Loses in Anti-Trust Conspiracy Case against Warner Bros.—RKO—Paramount

Canadian Moving Picture DIGEST

Established in 1915 for
Exhibitors

Subscription: \$5.00 yearly

Telephone: WAverley 4929

Cable: Ontocanada

RAY LEWIS

Editor and Managing Director

Published by Canadian
Moving Picture Digest

Company, Limited

259 Spadina Ave., Toronto

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MARY PICKFORD, PRESIDENT UNITED ARTISTS



AMERICA has done it again, a woman becomes, for the first time in Motion Picture History, the president of a producing, distributing and exhibiting company; and the woman,

Mary Pickford, is Canadian-born.

This does not imply that being born in Canada, helped her become the president of United Artists, despite the protestations and acclaims of those who have a National mania; and being thus constituted, attribute all the virtues, all the good fortune, to which one is heir, to the land of one's birth; and by the same scale of measurement, dispose of one's vices as the result of foreign influence.

Mary Pickford was vice-president of United Artists; and when the recently appointed president, Al Lichtman, resigned, Mary became the president, in the midst of many rumours of appointed presidents.

That Mary has her head screwed upon her shoulders properly, is no secret to the trade, which remembers the good business sense of Mary's mother. Mary has, therefore, come by her business ability naturally; and in addition Mary learned a great deal about Show Business which her mother did not teach her.

The resignation of Al Lichtman was a surprise to the Film Trade, for Mr. Lichtman has for many years been associated with United Artists; and his reputation for knowing the picture business is an accepted one.

He is a thorough and prodigious worker, too valuable from whom to part company, but as Mr. Lichtman explains in his own words, he resigned, because, "My views did not coincide with the policies of one of its producers".

There is a press statement that Mr. Lichtman will become associated, in an executive and official capacity, with the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer organization. Other stories concerning his business connections with other companies, mention Warner Bros.

By the time this editorial reaches you, across the Atlantic Ocean, Mr. Lichtman will have made a decision. Wherever he goes, the company with which he becomes associated, will benefit through his services. Wherever he goes, The Digest's good luck wishes will follow him, for The Digest is still young enough in spirit, to have an affectionate regard for all of our showmen, the men of brains, of enthusiasm, who know how to direct the work to be done, and how to work themselves!

RKO SHARES BOOM FILM STOCK

THE market of tape and ticker sent the RKO shares to their highest point in the past three years, with the announcement of the financial interest of Atlas Corp., and Lehman Bros., and the presidency, in the reorganization plan, of M. H. Aylesworth.

72,100 shares of RKO were reported as having changed hands, the high obtained was 57/8. Loew's jumped to a new high in four year, 46 1/2; Paramount, Warner Bros., 20th Century-Fox, all climbed with RKO; and as we say, "a good time was had by all," who were in on the jump.



RAW



RAY LEWIS

PRESENTS

THE unexpected has happened again, and yet is it the unexpected? London exhibitors are talking about Sam Goldwyn's "Barbary Coast", which opened at the London Pavilion. They are laying odds on this picture, that it will "clean up" in their theatres, because it has "it", that something which they as exhibitors believe the public will pay to see.

Miriam Hopkins appears to have walked into the right kind of a part for her ability and personality; and playing right with her is Edward G. Robinson. Ben Hecht and Charles MacArthur, responsible for "The Scoundrel", not only had a finger in this "Barbary Coast" pic, but each had a hand in it; between Goldwyn, Hecht and MacArthur, you have the answer, BOX-OFFICE.

The story is colorful, full of those full-blooded days of the San Francisco gold rush; gamblers then, not gangsters, and dames, hard-boiled dames, you know Kipling's kind, "the lady who did not care", and generally covered with glad rags, plenty of fat, and braids of auburn hair; tenderfoots, etc. It's a gold rush in London, how is it by you, as one exhibitor in New York said to another exhibitor, who complained that his wife was tired at night.

THERE are a number of pictures in London which are in the big money. Greta Garbo in "Anna Karenina" is at this writing in its third week, at the Empire. The critics gave Garbo and this picture "everything" by way of praise. I think it is the best picture Garbo has given us for a long time; and of equal interest, it is a magnificent production. Fredric March and Freddie Bartholomew, Basil Rathbone have an opportunity to present distinct characterizations, helping to contribute substantially to the smoothness of this production.

"China Seas" also made a hit in London, and created plenty of table talk. "39 Steps" continues to clean up, while "Top Hat" is endeavoring to rival its New York sensation, with the returns it is receiving at Carlton, Haymarket, London.

The talk around London is "Broadway Melody of 1936"; "China Seas"; "Anna Karenina"; "Top Hat"; "Alice Adams"; "Diamond Jim"; "Dark Angel"; "Midsummer Night's Dream"; "Curly Top"; "Heart's Desire"; "Wings of Song".

DO not believe that the SRO in London is necessarily an SRO in America for a British picture, but an SRO for a British picture in America is an SRO for it in England, and an SRO for an American picture in England is generally SRO in America.

It is a study to listen to the trade comments at the

trade shows. The exhibitors do not get the wise-cracking repartee which makes some pictures appear to be on their toes every minute. If you toured through England, stopped to ask a few directions and questions, noted how necessary it is to talk quietly, slowly, distinctly, amiably, you would realize why a picture which depends on wise-cracking dialogue entirely, will not make a hit in England, even if it is popular in the U.S. And, yet, the British tell you that they like the "go" in the American pictures, they enjoy action, movement, and snap; and cordially dislike a picture which drags, even if it is a high-brow.

Talking about that which is high-brow, I understand that France has a French edition of "The Scarlet Pimpernel" which makes the hero, or Elusive Pimpernel, a Frenchman, and the villain an Englishman. Talk about changing history, well, there you are.

THE London papers report that RKO's "Top Hat", smashed all the records at the Radio Music Hall, cleaning up one hundred and thirty-eight thousand dollars during its first week's run; and then proceeded to again smash the house record during its second week run. The figures quoted are one hundred and fifteen thousand for the second week, said to be the first week's receipts for "Little Women". It is curious, and yet Fred Astaire, during his early days in London, could not get a job, or any money, so his sister told the London press, in a recent interview.

The London papers report that William Randolph Hearst, if this name means anything to you, Canadian exhibitors, will leave California, since that state of sunshine is taking 80% of Hearst's income from him in taxes. And maybe you think that Hearst is fooling, watch and then watch the "moving day" of the Hollywood studios, and don't be surprised if you hear of greater American production activities in London.

California has a new tax of 15%. This is in Hearst's words, "the last straw" which will force him to abandon his twenty-five million dollar ranch in California.

M. R. HEARST, in writing to a California daily paper, states, "It would seem that a number of moving picture people who earn considerable salaries and are unwilling to pay California's high income tax are accepting engagements in the east and abroad. I am inclined to think that if some alert moving picture company should establish studios in Florida, Delaware, or some eastern place they could get many of the most valuable stars away from California. "This would be better for the nation than allowing them, and many leading directors to go abroad to build up English and foreign pictures."

(Continued on page 6)

M-G-M's "Mutiny on the Bounty" Smashing Box-Office Records Wherever Shown

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Fairweather in St. John

THE Empire Theatre on Cobourg Street has reduced its prices and is now playing at ten cents in the afternoon to all and ten and fifteen cents at night with the tax extra on adult tickets.

THE Strand Theatre is featuring Jalna, and the Mazo de la Roche novel is given an added interest in Saint John from the fact that it was picturized by Anthony Veiller, a graduate of Rothesay College, which is nine miles from Saint John, N.B. (and was, incidentally the birthplace and home of your correspondent). "Tony" Veiller was here some twelve years ago and has many former schoolmates and friends in the city and Province. Another Maritime note is the presence in the picture of David Manners, a native of Halifax, N.S., while the producer, Kenneth MacGowan, is from the Province of Prince Edward Island and has been a frequent visitor to his former home.

"MAN OF ARAN" at the Mayfair Theatre drew many patrons who are not regular movie fans but who have been awaiting this much talked of picture with its marvellous sea views and realistic portrayal of the life of the inhabitants of that bleak coast.

ALL Saint John theatres are back at straight picture programmes although recently an appeal for girls to dance, was noticed in the newspaper with directions to call at the Empire. A very creditable little performance was put on here some time ago with local talent trained by local boys.

It is a pleasure to his friends to see F. G. Spencer back again in his office and to know that his health is so improved after his unfortunate accident.

THE members of the Maple Leaf Club, an organization formed of wives of ex-servicemen and sponsored by the Saint John Red Cross Society, were guests of Mr. Spencer and the management of the Strand Theatre recently. Mr. Spencer is frequently a host to members of clubs or to those to whom a movie is a special treat.

FOLLOWING a meeting of the New Brunswick Guides Association in Saint John the members were entertained at the Capitol Theatre where, after the regular programme, special sporting and hunting pictures were shown. Another Society which met at the Capitol Theatre was the Saint John Branch of the British Empire Service Legion. The meeting was held after the regular showing and one or two special reels were shown for the entertainment of the returned men. The Capitol Theatre is carrying out its splendid work as a Community Centre and this is a well recognized fact in the city.

THE opening, or rather the re-opening of two new theatres in this territory is announced, one at River Herbert, N.B., the other at Barrington Passage, N.S. The Palace Theatre at River Herbert, formerly managed by F. H. McIvor has been taken over by Duncan McEachern whose son, W. L. McEachern, is manager. This theatre has two hundred and fifty seats, and will be open one day per week. The theatre at Barrington Passage is re-named Goudey, and is leased by E. Gordon Goudey, managed by L. A. Homer. It has a seating capacity of two hundred and seventy-five and will be open two days each week.

Mark Ostrer, President Gaumont-British Announces His Company Will Not Produce Pictures in Hollywood—May Distribute U.S.-Made Films

Lulu in Hollywood

REVIEW of "Metropolitan", a Darryl F. Zanuck Twentieth Century Production presented by Jos. M. Schenck. Directed by Richard Boleslawski. Screen play by Bess Meredith and George Marion, Jr. Photography by Rudolph Mate, A.S.C.. Cast: Lawrence Tibbett, Virginia Bruce, Alice Brady, Caesar Romero, Thurston Hall, Luis Alberni, George Marion, Sr., Adrian Rosley, Christian Rub, Ruth Donnelly, Franklyn Ardell, Etienne Girardot, Jessie Ralph.

Do you love opera, splendid voices, a rollicking story, and spirituals thrown in for good measure? If you do, don't miss "Metropolitan". Never since the Rogue Song has Tibbett done anything so good. I thought "De Glory Road" was tops, then along came "Largo al Factotum" from the "Barber of Seville" and that was topper, and lo and behold, the "Son Qua" from Pagliacci was toppest, so what's to do about it, except go to see and to hear for yourself.

The story is light, a back stage affair with a temperamental lady, Alice Brady as Ghita Galin who decides to put on an opera season of her own, incidentally wanting to own the tenor Thomas Renwick (Tibbett). Rehearsals are in order with the inimitable Luis Alberni as Ugo Pizzi, accompanist, friend, adviser, butterinsky and what have you, and dear old George Marion, Sr., as Perontelli, the supposedly has-been Maestro. And does he do his stuff!!!

Thomas has accidentally and incidentally met a lovely lady, Virginia Bruce as Anne Merrill, on the road from a fishing trip, again meeting her when she applies for a place in the opera company. Naturally he loves her, who wouldn't? So Lady Ghitta's plans sometimes go haywire, and after weeks of rehearsals and plenty of bills unpaid, she pulls out, and lets them shift for themselves. Anne proves to be the daughter of a rich man, who is trying to get ahead on her own, and finances the affair, and it goes off with a bang, with no mean vocal assistance by Virginia herself. She will be a big surprise, vocally, to many. Whether you are musical or not you will love it, for it is such a happy-go-lucky rollicking and satisfying film.

Ray Presents

(Continued from page 4)

Mr. Hearst may have overlooked the fact that American stars, directors, etc., do not go to England to build up English pictures, but to protect their American market; and to give the American people a change in background, atmosphere, environment, from Hollywood. A change is as good as a cure. The American-British activity is what the American and British Film Industry needs greatly; and incidentally the American Industry has had all its eggs in one basket, Hollywood, and the California politicians are stepping upon the eggs; no eggs, no chickens, no chickens, no nuggets; you know the story of the hen which laid the golden egg? Figure it out and don't say, I told you so.





Show Business



"Anthony Adverse" Cast

Olivia de Havilland wins the principal feminine role of Angela, and Claude Rains will play the rascally Don Luis in Warner Brothers production of Hervey Allen's modern classic, "Anthony Adverse".

Fredric March will play the title role. Anita Louise will have the role of Maria, his mother, in the prologue. Donald Woods will be Vincent Nolte. Gale Sondergaard will be Faith. Edmund Gwenn will play John Bonnyfeather. Akim Tamiroff will be Cibo. Henry O'Neill, Pedro de Cordoba, Ann Shoemaker, Louis Alberni, Joseph Crehan, Clara Blandick, Leonard Nudie and Rafaelo Otiano will have other important roles.

Morrie Ryskind has been engaged to write the screen play for the initial production of the newly-organized Pickford-Lasky Productions. It is to be an adaptation of a French play for which Jesse L. Lasky secured the screen rights on his recent trip abroad, and will star Francis Lederer.

All Pickford-Lasky productions will be released through United Artists.

Lily Pons, one of the greatest living coloratura sopranos, will make her motion picture debut in Radio City, New York, within the next few weeks in "I Dream Too Much", an RKO Radio picture with original music by Jerome Kern.

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Hal Roach Signs New Actress to 7-Year Contract

Arriving in New York to attend the dinner for David Loew recently, Hal Roach announced signing of Rosina Lawrence, to a seven year contract. Miss Lawrence has played in several films and is also a singer and dancer of note. She made her screen debut at the age of thirteen in Cecil B. De Mille's "Angel of Broadway". Among her recent pictures were "Reckless", "The Ten Dollar Raise", "Welcome Home", "Music Is Magic", "Charlie Chan's Secret" and "Your Uncle Dudley".

Born in Ottawa, Canada, Miss Lawrence received her schooling in Boston, Massachusetts and Los Angeles. She is a comely blonde, five feet, three and one-half inches in height. She was recently under contract to 20th Century-Fox.

Long-Term Contract for Director Sam Wood

Sam Wood, who is being widely applauded for his direction of Irving G. Thalberg's "A Night at the Opera", which is being hailed by photoplay editors as the funniest comedy yet turned out by the Marx Brothers, has been awarded a new long-term Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer contract.

Fanny Brice, having completed her role in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's "The Great Ziegfeld", is now en route to New York, where she will join the forthcoming Ziegfeld Follies. "The Great Ziegfeld", in which many former Ziegfeld stars appear, has William Powell in the title role.

Myrna Loy and Tracy Co-starred in "Whipsaw"

With Myrna Loy and Spencer Tracy co-starred for the first time, cameras began turning last week on "Whipsaw", vivid new Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer feature.

It is the picture which is to return Miss Loy to screen audiences after her long holiday in Europe.

Miss Loy also appears with William Powell and Luise Rainer in "The Great Ziegfeld" for M-G-M, and Tracy is co-starring with Jean Harlow in "Riffraff".

Jack Hulbert and Cicely Courtneidge Sail for England

Jack Hulbert and his wife, Cicely Courtneidge, G-B comedy stars, sailed November 9th on the Europa, bound directly for Shepherd's Bush.

Miss Courtneidge, while in Hollywood, co-starred with Frank Morgan in M-G-M's "A Perfect Gentleman". Mr. Hulbert joined her there a few weeks ago, for a short vacation.

Both stars have stories waiting for them upon their return to the G-B studios.

Paul Robeson Gets "Show Boat" Role

On Friday of this week Paul Robeson, summoned by Carl Laemmle, Jr., from London to play in "Show Boat", will arrive in Universal City. He gave an Armistice Day recital in Seattle and will remain in Hollywood for five weeks. Charles Winninger, who will play Capt. Andy, is already on the lot working with James Whale, the director.

Toronto Theatres

LOEW'S—Manager Jules Bernstein — Two Metro features: Wallace Beery and Jackie Cooper in "O'Shaughnessy's Boy", and Jack Benny in "It's In The Air".

TIVOLI—Manager D. Krendal — Two Columbia features: "She Married Her Boss", with Claudette Colbert; and Nancy Carroll in "After the Dance".

UPTOWN—Manager Tom Daley — Lawrence Tibbett in "Metropolitan", a Darryl F. Zanuck-Twentieth Century production.

IMPERIAL—Manager Jack Arthur — Edmund Lowe in "King Solomon of Broadway", with Dorothy Page and Pinky Tomlin, a Universal production.

SHEA'S—Manager Jerry Shea — Two Warner Bros. features: "Cappy Ricks Returns", and Bette Davis in "Special Agent".

Fox-20th Century to Produce Feature Length Film Dionne Quintuplets with Dr. Dafoe in Title Character Role

Roly Young, Famous Dramatic Critic of the Toronto Mail and Empire, Tells You What a Wonderful Production and Box Office Attraction This Is:



Roly Young in Toronto Mail and Empire of November 14th:

Of course it was just happy accident that caused Tom Daley to screen "Transatlantic Tunnel" on Tuesday night so that this review would be written on Wednesday and would appear in Thursday's paper, just as Mr. Daley was doing some heavy advertising on "Transatlantic Tunnel," and of course it was just happy accident that Mr. Daley knew he had such a swell picture that I would sing the right kind of adjectives right and left—but whether it was, the fact is that "TRANS-ATLANTIC TUNNEL" IS ONE OF THE GREATEST FILMS ENGLAND HAS TURNED OUT to date. I should imagine that it is the most expensive . . . The story is laid in the indefinite future and is THE MOST FANTASTIC THING ALONG THIS LINE SINCE "METROPOLIS" . . . Every possible thrill has been used and every sure-fire emotional situation is worked in, so that THE AUDIENCE APPEAL IS TREMENDOUS . . . The cast is quite up to all requirements . . . the American players are well enough known not to need additional mention and you will recall Leslie Banks as Sanders in "Sanders of the River" . . . "Transatlantic Tunnel" has just completed a record-breaking extended run at the mammoth Roxy theatre in New York, and I SEE NO REASON WHY IT SHOULD NOT BE JUST AS POPULAR HERE AND ELSEWHERE.

Book It! Boost It! The Year's Biggest Business Is Sure to Be the Result! You Take No Chances! Don't Let Your Competitor Beat You To It!

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